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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 24, 2001

**COTTONWOOD AND YREKA METHAMPHETAMINE DISTRIBUTORS INDICTED**

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney John K. Vincent announced today that a federal grand jury returned a five-count indictment charging POMPOSO VICTOR VAZQUEZ, JR., 30, and JUAN CARLOS CASTILLO, 22, both of Cottonwood, with conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine and distribution of methamphetamine, and KEVIN ROSS, 36, and TINA ROSS, 20, both of Yreka, with possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Douglas Sprague, who is prosecuting the case, the indictment alleges that during August and September 2001, defendants VAZQUEZ and CASTILLO conspired to distribute and did distribute several hundred grams of methamphetamine. In addition, in September 2001, defendants Kevin and Tina ROSS allegedly possessed methamphetamine with intent to distribute it.

The charges are only allegations and the defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

If convicted, the maximum penalty under federal law is life in prison for defendants VAZQUEZ and CASTILLO and forty years in prison for defendants Kevin and Tina ROSS.

This case is the product of a joint investigation involving the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement - Redding Regional Office, the Shasta

Interagency Narcotics Task Force, the Siskiyou Interagency Narcotics Task Force, the Tehama/Glenn Methamphetamine Task Force and the District Attorney's Office of both Shasta and Tehama counties.

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